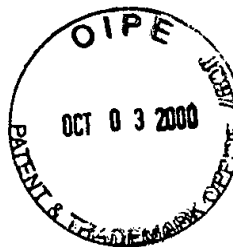


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States postal service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on September 29, 2000.


DEL S. CHRISTENSEN

SEPTEMBER 28, 1998
(Date of Signature)



PATENT
TH1042 (US)
DSC

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Rashmi K. Shah et al.

Serial No. 09/168,770

Filed OCTOBER 8, 1998

FLAMELESS COMBUSTOR PROCESS HEATER

GROUP ART UNIT 1744

EXAMINER: F. VARCOE Jr.

SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

The following amendment and remarks are responsive to an Office action mailed on March 29, 2000, in the prosecution of the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration of this application in light of this amendment and remarks is respectfully requested

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

no new matter added
✓ (Amended) A process heater comprising:

an oxidation [reaction] chamber, the oxidation [reaction] chamber having an inlet for oxidant, an outlet for combustion products, and a flow path between the inlet and the outlet;

a fuel conduit capable of transporting a fuel mixture to a plurality of fuel nozzles within the oxidation [reaction] chamber, each nozzle providing communication from within the fuel conduit to the oxidation chamber, with each nozzle along the flowpath between the inlet and the outlet;